IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Mann et al.

Serial No.:

09/920,285

For:

6-MIRROR MICROLITHOGRAPHY PROJECTION OBJECTIVE

Filed:

August 1, 2001

Examiner:

Thong Q. Nguyen

Art Unit:

2872

Confirmation No.:

5678

Customer No.:

27,623

Attorney Docket No.: 637.0008USQ

COMMENT ON NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants received a Notice of Allowance dated June 4, 2004, for the present application. The Notice of Allowance was accompanied by a Notice of Allowability.

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/503,640, filed February 14, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,353,470. The present application also claims priorities of (a) German Patent Application No. 100 37 870.6, filed August 1, 2000, (b) European Patent Application No. 01116916.6, filed July 11, 2001, and (c) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/255,214, filed December 13, 2000.

On August 1, 2001, Applicants submitted a certified copy of German Patent Application No. 100 37 870.6, and on October 31, 2001, Applicants submitted a certified copy of European Patent Application No. 01116916.6. In an Office Action dated September 8, 2003, the Office Action Summary, item 13(a)(1) is checked, thus acknowledging receipt of all of the certified copies of the priority documents.

Applicants are enclosing herewith a copy of:

- (a) a filing receipt dated December 22, 2003, showing that the Office acknowledged Applicants' claims to priority;
- (b) the cover sheet of the certified copy of German Patent Application No. 100 37 870.6; and
- (c) the cover sheet of the certified copy of European Patent Application No. 01116916.6.

The Notice of Allowability does not affirmatively acknowledge Applicants' claims to priority. Therefore, Applicants are hereby reasserting the claims to priority and respectfully requesting that the Examiner issue a Supplemental Notice of Allowability acknowledging Applicants' claims to domestic priority and foreign priority, to ensure that the patent issues properly.

September 9,70

Respectfully submitted,

Charles N.J. Ruggierd, Esq.

Reg. No. 28,468

Attorney for the Applicants

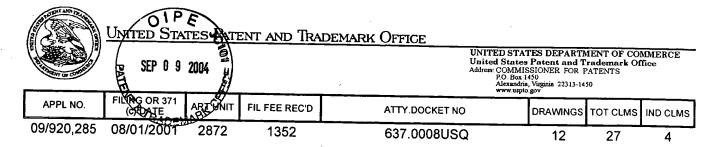
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RECEIVED

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OHLANUI, GHEELEY RUGGIERO & PERLE, LLP CONFIRMATION NO. 5678
CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

OC000000011550387

Date Mailed: 12/22/2003

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Hans-Jurgen Mann, Oberkochen, GERMANY; Udo Dinger, Oberkochen, GERMANY; Michael Muhlbeyer, Aalen, GERMANY;

Assignment For Published Patent Application

Carl-Zeiss-Stiftung trading as Carl Zeiss:

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CIP of 09/503,640 02/14/2000 PAT 6,353,470 and claims benefit of 60/255,214 12/13/2000

Foreign Applications

GERMANY 100 37 870.6 08/01/2000 EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE (EPO) 01116916.6 07/11/2001

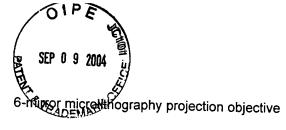
If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 09/08/2001

Projected Publication Date: Not Applicable

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title



Preliminary Class

359

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BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND



Prioritätsbescheinigung über die Einreichung einer Patentanmeldung

Aktenzeichen:

100 37 870.6

Anmeldetag:

01. August 2000

Anmelder/Inhaber:

Carl Zeiss,

Heidenheim an der Brenz/DE

Bezeichnung:

6-Spiegel-Mikrolithographie-Projektionsobjektiv

IPC:

G 02 B, G 03 F

Die angehefteten Stücke sind eine richtige und genaue Wiedergabe der ursprünglichen Unterlagen dieser Patentanmeldung.

München, den 01. Februar 2001

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt

Der Präsident

Im Auftrag

Waasmaies







Europäisches **Patentamt**

European **Patent Office**

Office européen des brevets

Bescheinigung

Certificate

Attestation

Die angehefteten Unterlagen stimmen mit der ursprünglich eingereichten Fassung der auf dem nächsten Blatt bezeichneten europäischen Patentanmeldung überein.

The attached documents are exact copies of the European patent application conformes à la version described on the following page, as originally filed.

Les documents fixés à cette attestation sont initialement déposée de la demande de brevet européen spécifiée à la page suivante.

Patentanmeldung Nr.

Patent application No. Demande de brevet n°

01116916.6

Der Präsident des Europäischen Patentamts; Im Auftrag

For the President of the European Patent Office

Le Président de l'Office européen des brevets D.O.

I.L.C. HATTEN-HECKMAN